United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Public Affairs
Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Illinois Indiana
Michigan Minnesota
Ohio Wisconsin

If you would like EPA to hold a **Public Meeting** regarding activities at the Ott/Story/Cordova site, please call:

John Fagiolo
Remedial Project Manager
(312) 886-0800

or

Eileen Deamer
Community Involvement Coordinator
(312) 886-1728

EPA Toll Free Number: 1-800-621-8431

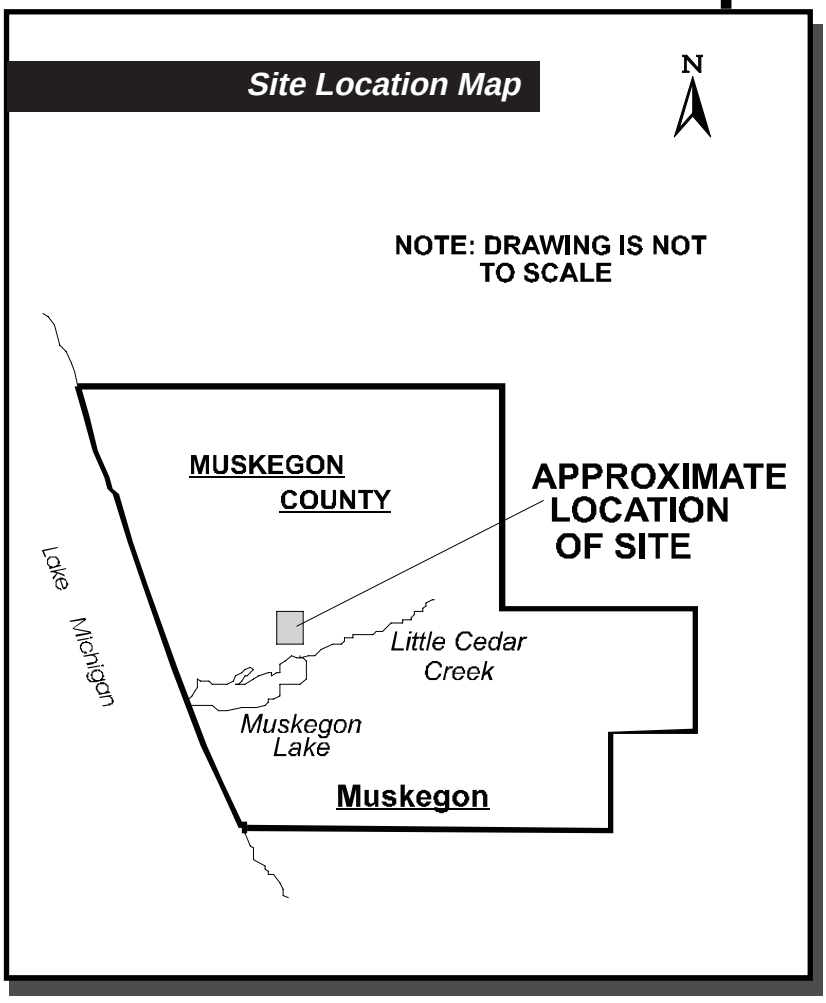
Pipeline Installation Underway

Ott/Story/Cordova Superfund Site

Muskegon, Michigan
April 1999

Introduction

A pipeline is being installed at the Ott/Story/Cordova Superfund site (the site). This fact sheet explains why this action is underway. It also provides site background information and contacts for additional information.



Background Information

The site is located at 500 Agard Road in Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Michigan. The former production area covers about 20 acres and is surrounded by wooded land and a residential area. Little Bear Creek (the Creek) and its unnamed tributary are located about one-half mile east of the site. Improper chemical waste disposal resulted in contamination of site soils, the Creek, and groundwater below and downgradient of the site.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with help from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), is implementing groundwater cleanup at the site in two actions, known as Operable Units 1 and 2. An operable unit (OU) is an action taken as one part of the overall site cleanup.

OU1 addresses Little Bear Creek and its unnamed tributary. The OU1 cleanup remedy uses extraction wells to catch contaminated groundwater before it reaches the Creek. OU2 addresses groundwater treatment. The OU2 cleanup plan included construction of a groundwater treatment plant to remove contamination from extracted groundwater and the discharge of

clean (treated) water into the Muskegon River. Extraction wells and the groundwater treatment plant were designed, built, and are operated through an agreement between EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The wells and groundwater treatment plant have been in use since 1996.

Need for a New Pipeline

The site groundwater treatment plant relies on a 3-mile long underground pipeline to discharge water from the plant to the Muskegon River. This pipeline has been in place for many years. It runs along the railroad tracks from the site to the River. Pipeline conditions and flow capacity were not fully known until the groundwater treatment plant was up and running. After startup, it became apparent that the existing pipeline limited the water flow rate.

At this point, EPA and USACE considered sending the clean, treated water to the Creek and its unnamed tributary instead of to the Muskegon River. This option, however, could not be implemented because the Creek is a smaller, more sensitive water body, and the type and amount of water it can accept is strictly limited. USACE and EPA then decided to construct a new pipeline beside the existing one to solve the flow problem and meet cleanup needs.

Pipeline Installation Schedule

The U.S. Government has temporary access to property for pipeline construction; long-term agreements for continued repair and maintenance of the two pipelines will be arranged, if needed. Pipeline construction begins in late April and will be finished in 2 or 3 months. EPA anticipates the new pipeline will be in use by the end of Summer 1999.

Other Site News

The 1993 cleanup plan for contaminated soil and Creek sediments (known as OU3) originally called for excavated site soil to be treated with heat to remove contamination. Treated soil would then be used to back-fill excavated areas or if the soil exceeded Michigan standards, it would be disposed of offsite at a licensed landfill. In June 1995, the State of Michigan changed its cleanup standards. The new standards significantly decreased the volume of site soils that needed treatment. Also during this time, the long-term effectiveness of thermal treatment was questioned. A major concern was the potential for clean soil areas to be recontaminated if groundwater levels rose.

In July 1995, EPA reviewed the OU3 remedy. In 1998, EPA changed the cleanup plan to excavation and disposal of site soil that exceeded Michigan standards in a licensed offsite landfill. By Spring 2000, the MDEQ will start the soil cleanup. This year, MDEQ will perform design work for soil cleanup. During excavation, EPA will monitor dust and other emissions. Engineering controls (work slow down, water sprays, foam covers) will be used, if needed, to protect public health and the environment.

Other site activities include regular sampling of Creek water and sediments to monitor contaminant concentrations in the Creek. EPA may perform additional cleanup activities if the groundwater extraction and treatment system does not reduce potential risks posed by the Creek.

Additional Information

If you would like additional information on the Ott/Story/Cordova Site, please contact one of the following representatives.

U.S. EPA Contacts

Eileen Deamer (P-19J)
Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 886-1728
deamer.eileen@epa.gov

John Fagiolo (S-6J)
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 886-0800
fagiolo.john@epa.gov

State of Michigan Contact

Dennis Eagle
Project Manager
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Environmental Response Division
301 South Capitol
P.O. Box 30426
EAGLED@state.mi.us
(517) 373-8195

Toll-free at 1-800-621-8431

Remedy cleanup plans, the Community Involvement Plan, fact sheets, and other site related information are available for review in the Site information repositories at the Dalton Township Hall, 1616 E. Riley Thompson Road, Dalton Township, and the Walker Memorial Library, 1522 Ruddiman Avenue, North Muskegon. An Administrative Record file, which contains the information used to select site cleanup plans, is located at the Walker Memorial Library.